

Appendix 6: Putting on and Removing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)


Before undertaking any procedure or task, staff should assess the risk of likely exposure to blood and/or other body fluids, non-intact skin, mucous membranes, or any equipment or items in the care environment that could be contaminated, and wear PPE if required. PPE must protect adequately against the risks associated with the procedure or task. The items of PPE worn will vary based on the type of exposure anticipated, and not all items of PPE may be required.

Putting on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Before beginning, check which items of PPE are required and that these are available in the correct size.

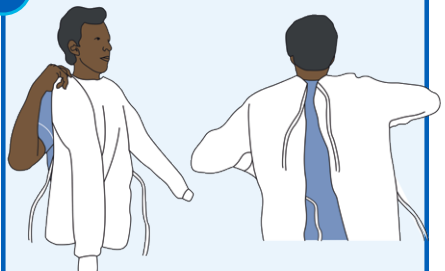
The order for putting on PPE is Apron or Gown, Fluid-Resistant Surgical Mask (FRSM)/ Respiratory Protection Equipment (RPE) (FFP3),¹ Eye Protection, then Gloves.

1




Apron: Pull over head and tie securely at the back.

2




Gown: Fully cover torso neck to knees, arms to end of wrist and wrap around the back. Fasten at the back.

3



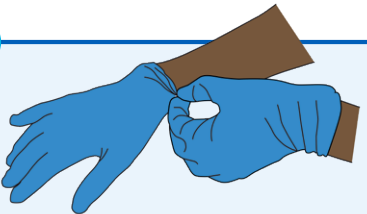
FRSM or RPE (FFP3)¹: Secure ties or elastic bands at middle of head and neck. Fit flexible band to nose bridge. Fit snug to face and below chin. Respirators must be fit checked if being worn.

4



Eye Protection (Goggles/Face Shield): Place over face and eyes and adjust to fit.

5



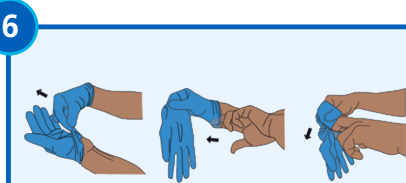
Gloves: Pull on taking care to minimise contamination of the outer surface by holding gloves at the wrist opening only. Extend to cover wrist (over gown cuffs, if applicable).

Steps on removing PPE are continued on the next page.

Removing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

When removing PPE, the correct technique is essential to avoid touching the most contaminated areas of PPE e.g., the outside of gloves and front of aprons/gowns, eye protection, and FRSM/RPE.

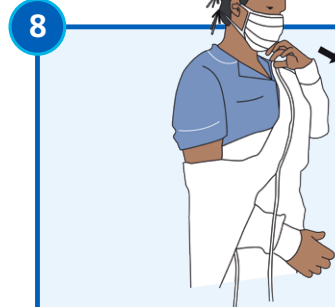
The order for removing PPE is Gloves, Apron or Gown, Eye Protection, then FRSM/RPE (FFP3)¹.



Gloves: Pinch and lift the outside of the glove in the palm area with the opposite gloved hand; peel off while turning inside out. Hold the removed glove in the gloved hand. Slide two fingers of the ungloved hand under the remaining glove at the wrist. Peel the second glove off over the first glove and discard.



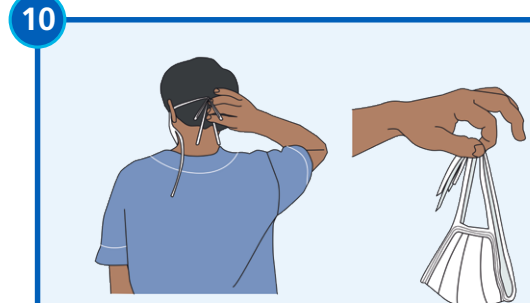
Apron: Unfasten or break neck ties and allow apron to fall forward. Unfasten or break waist ties and pull apron away from the body touching the inside only. Fold or roll into a bundle and discard.



Gown: Unfasten neck, then waist ties. Remove using a peeling motion; pull gown from each shoulder towards the same hand turning gown inside out. Hold removed gown away from body, fold or roll into a bundle and discard.



Eye Protection (Goggles/Face shield): Handle eye protection only by the headband or the sides. Face shields/goggles should be removed by grasping sides and pulling directly forward, away from face. To remove goggles with an elasticated headband, tilt head forward and grasp the headband with index fingers and thumbs, lift the headband upwards whilst pushing frame away from face, lower goggles away from face and discard.



FRSM or RPE (FFP3)¹: Unfasten the ties - first the bottom, then the top or, if elasticated, pull top and bottom elastics together. Handling the ties/elastics only pull away from the face without touching front of mask/respirator and discard.

- All PPE should be removed before leaving the care area and immediately disposed of directly into the appropriate waste stream, or a designated receptacle for reusable PPE.
- Perform hand hygiene immediately upon removal of PPE.

1. Reusable RPE including powered hoods may require a different order for putting on and removing, refer to your local policy if applicable.